

OPINION 1916

BRACHYPTERINAE Zwick, 1973 (Insecta, Plecoptera): spelling emended to BRACHYPTERAINAE, so removing the homonymy with BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson, [1845] (Insecta, Coleoptera); KATERETIDAE Erichson in Agassiz, [1846]: given precedence over BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; Plecoptera; beetles; stoneflies; *Kateretes*; *Brachypterus*; *Brachyptera*; KATERETIDAE; BRACHYPTERINAE; BRACHYPTERAINAE.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary powers it is hereby ruled that:
 - (a) for the purposes of Article 29 of the Code the stem of the generic name *Brachyptera* Newport, 1848 (Plecoptera) is BRACHYPTERA-;
 - (b) the family-group name KATERETIDAE Erichson in Agassiz, [1846] and other family-group names based on *Kateretes* Herbst, 1793 are given precedence over BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson, [1845] and other family-group names based on *Brachypterus* Kugelann, 1794 (Coleoptera).
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *Brachyptera* Newport, 1848 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Frison (1929) *Nemoura trifasciata* Pictet, 1832 (Plecoptera);
 - (b) *Kateretes* Herbst, 1793 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Hope (1840) *Dermestes pedicularius* Linnaeus, 1758 (Coleoptera);
 - (c) *Brachypterus* Kugelann, 1794 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Thomson (1859) *Dermestes urticae* Fabricius, 1792 (Coleoptera).
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *trifasciata* Pictet, 1832, as published in the binomen *Nemoura trifasciata* (specific name of the type species of *Brachyptera* Newport, 1848) (Plecoptera);
 - (b) *pedicularius* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Dermestes pedicularius* (specific name of the type species of *Kateretes* Herbst, 1793) (Coleoptera);
 - (c) *urticae* Fabricius, 1792, as published in the binomen *Dermestes urticae* (specific name of the type species of *Brachypterus* Kugelann, 1794) (Coleoptera).
- (4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology:
 - (a) BRACHYPTERAINAE Zwick, 1973 (type genus *Brachyptera* Newport, 1848), spelling emended by the ruling in (1)(a) above (Plecoptera);

- (b) KATERETIDAE Erichson in Agassiz, [1846] (type genus *Kateretes* Herbst, 1793) with the endorsement that it and other family-group names based on *Kateretes* are to be given precedence over BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson, [1845] (type genus *Brachypterus* Kugelann, 1794) and other family-group names based on *Brachypterus* whenever they are considered to be synonyms (Coleoptera);
- (c) BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson, [1845] (type genus *Brachypterus* Kugelann, 1794), with the endorsement that it and other family-group names based on *Brachypterus* are not to be given priority over KATERETIDAE Erichson in Agassiz, [1846] (type genus *Kateretes* Herbst, 1793) and other family-group names based on *Kateretes* whenever they are considered to be synonyms (Coleoptera).
- (5) The name BRACHYPTERINAE Zwick, 1973 is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology (spelling emended to BRACHYPTERAINAE by the ruling in (1)(a) above) (Plecoptera).

History of Case 2865

The original application, received from Prof P.A. Audisio & Prof R. Fochetti (*Università degli Studi di Roma 'La Sapienza', Rome, Italy*) and Prof P. Zwick (*Limnologische Flusstation Schlitz des Max-Planck-Instituts für Limnologie, Schlitz, Germany*) on 26 October 1992 and published in BZN 51: 309–311 (December 1994), sought to remove the homonymy between the coleopteran and plecopteran family-group names BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson, [1845] and BRACHYPTERINAE Zwick, 1973 (based on *Brachypterus* Kugelann, 1794 and *Brachyptera* Newport, 1848 respectively). It was proposed that Zwick's family-group name should be emended to BRACHYPTERAINAE.

In BZN 52: 179–181 (June 1995) Prof Audisio supplemented the original proposals with one to give the coleopteran name KATERETIDAE (then cited with the authorship and date of 'Ganglbauer, 1899', but see below) precedence over BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson on the grounds that KATERETIDAE had had greater usage for the family-group taxon that includes both *Kateretes* Herbst, 1793 and *Brachypterus*. Prof Audisio also noted that Thomson's (1859) designation of *Dermestes urticae* Fabricius, 1792 as the type species of *Brachypterus* was earlier than that by Parsons (1943) cited in para. 1 of the original application.

In BZN 52: 335–336 (December 1995) Prof Alfred F. Newton (*The Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.*) opposed the additional proposal for priority reasons, pointing out that 'the name BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson has continued to be used occasionally for this group (see, for example, Hatch, 1961), although the name CATERETINAE or KATERETINAE has been used much more commonly during this period' [more than 50 years]. He noted that, in accordance with strict priority, the name BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson had been adopted in three recent publications (Lawrence & Britton, 1994; Pakaluk, Ślipiński & Lawrence, 1994; Lawrence & Newton, 1995).

A comment from Dr R.G. Booth (*International Institute of Entomology, clo The Natural History Museum, London, U.K.*), published in BZN 53: 47 (March 1996), followed that of Prof Newton in favouring the adoption of BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson as the valid name. Dr Booth also pointed out that the unused family-group name CERCIDAE Chenu & Desmarest, 1851 (based on *Cercus* Latreille, 1796, a junior

synonym of *Kateretes*) was earlier than KATERETIDAE (then attributed to Ganglbauer, 1899).

It was noted on the voting paper that in comments on the forthcoming 4th Edition of the Code, Prof Newton (in litt., May 1996) had made it clear that he had changed his view on priority in family-group names. He stated that he would have preferred to follow the proposed new provisions, which facilitate conservation of later names in current use, rather than resurrect earlier names. He again cited Lawrence & Newton (1995), in which names in use had been changed for priority reasons, and also Newton & Thayer (1992). He noted: 'Although most of the 116 name changes in Coleoptera family-group names required by the current Code have already been implemented by me or others, I would certainly have preferred not to make those that could have been avoided if the proposed new rules had been in effect. I do not think now that our strict adherence to current rules [i.e. strict priority] in these cases contributed anything useful to the long-term stability of these names. In fact the reverse is probably true: future workers must deal with two sets of names that have been used extensively in the literature, and the 'corrected' name is still subject to change as a result of further nomenclatural research or taxonomic changes'.

The application was sent for voting on 1 December 1997. Proposals for the removal of the homonymy between the coleopteran and plecopteran family-group names BRACHYPTERINAE (published in BZN 51: 310), and for the precedence of the name KATERETIDAE OVER BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson (published in BZN 52: 180) were offered separately for voting.

In addition it was proposed that KATERETIDAE (then attributed to Ganglbauer, 1899) should be given precedence over the unused name CERCIDAE Chenu & Desmarest, 1851 in order to allow it to remain in valid use for a family or subfamily regardless of its precedence in relation to BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson, [1845].

The Commission approved the proposal to remove the homonymy between BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson, [1845] (Coleoptera) and BRACHYPTERINAE Zwick, 1973 (Plecoptera). The proposal for the name KATERETIDAE to take precedence over BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson received a majority (14 votes in favour, eight votes against) but failed to reach the required two-thirds majority for approval.

Two Commissioners commented on their voting papers. In relation to the proposed precedence of KATERETIDAE OVER BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson, Brothers noted: 'Had the proposals in BZN 52: 180 not been pre-empted by the adoption of priority in the general works dealing with coleopteran family-group names cited by Prof Newton, their approval would have been appropriate. However, these works are likely to be used for clarification, and approval of the relevant proposals now would be likely to cause even greater confusion'. In relation to the proposed precedence of KATERETIDAE OVER CERCIDAE Chenu & Desmarest, 1851, Kerzhner commented: 'A Commission ruling on this proposal is unnecessary. Two works have been overlooked by the applicants and commentators on this case. Agassiz ([1846], p. 30) cited both the generic name '*Cateretes* Herbst ...' and, in the type face used for suprageneric names, 'CATERETES ... *Cateretes*. Nitidulariae'. The generic name is given here as valid and is clearly indicated as the basis of the family-group name, so the latter is available from this work. The unusual form of the family-group name (CATERETES, the nominative plural of the generic name) was commonly used in other names by authors of that period and does not contravene the Code. The title page of

the work states (translation from Latin) 'reviewed and numerous names added by Guil. F. Erichson', and it is clear that Erichson was responsible for taxonomic decisions in this work and hence the authorship of KATERETIDAE should be credited to Erichson in Agassiz ([1846]). Agassiz ([1847], p. 68) gave essentially the same information as in [1846] but used CATERETAE as the spelling of the family-group name. The type species of *Kateretes* (as *Cateretes*), *Dermestes pedicularius* Linnaeus, 1758, was designated by Hope (1840, p. 155).

Under the Bylaws the proposal to conserve the name KATERETIDAE by giving it precedence over BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson required a revote. Completion of the voting on this proposal would allow an Opinion to be published combined with that on the removal of the homonymy between BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson and BRACHYPTERINAE Zwick. The name KATERETIDAE was attributed to Erichson in Agassiz ([1846]), in place of Ganglbauer (1899) as previously cited, and the proposal to give KATERETIDAE precedence over CERCIDAE Chenu & Desmarest, 1851, approved by the Commissioners in the first vote, was omitted as it was not necessary.

Additional references

- Agassiz, L. [1846]. *Nomenclator zoologicus*, fasc. 11 (Nomina systematica generum Coleopterorum tam viventium quam fossilium). xii, 170 pp. Soloduri.
- Agassiz, L. [1847]. *Nomenclatoris zoologici index universalis*. x, 1135 pp. Soloduri. (The dates of Agassiz's works were set out in pp. x-xi, 1 of Nye, I.W.B. (Ed.). 1979. *The generic names of moths of the world*, vol. 3).
- Hope, F.W. 1840. *The coleopterist's manual*, part 3. 191 pp. Bridgewater, London.
- Newton, A.F. Jr. & Thayer, M.K. 1992. Current classification and family-group names in Staphyliniformia (Coleoptera). *Fieldiana* (Zoology, n.s.)67: 1-92.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 1997 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals to remove the homonymy between the coleopteran and plecopteran family-group names BRACHYPTERINAE (published in BZN 51: 310). At the close of the voting period on 1 March 1998 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 20: Bock, Bouchet, Brothers, Cocks, Eschmeyer, Heppell, Kabata, Kerzhner, Kraus, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Martins de Souza, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Papp, Patterson, Štys, Song

Negative votes — 2: Mahnert and Savage.

No votes were received from Dupuis and Schuster.

Cogger and Ride were on leave of absence.

On 1 December 1997 the Commissioners had also been asked to give the name KATERETIDAE precedence over BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson (published in BZN 52: 180); however, this proposal did not receive the necessary two-thirds majority. On 1 September 1998 they were invited to revote on a revised version of this proposal. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 1998 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 16: Bock, Cocks, Cogger, Eschmeyer, Kabata, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Papp, Patterson, Savage, Schuster

Negative votes — 3: Bouchet, Brothers and Štys.

No votes were received from Dupuis, Lehtinen, Kerzhner, Kraus and Song.

Heppell and Ride were on leave of absence.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

Brachyptera Newport, 1848, *Proceedings of the Linnean Society, London*, **1**: 388.

BRACHYPTERAINAE Zwick, 1973, *Das Tierreich*, **94**: 308 (incorrectly spelled as BRACHYPTERINAE).

BRACHYPTERINAE Erichson, [1845], *Naturgeschichte der Insecten Deutschlands*, Abt. 1 (Coleoptera), vol. 3, p. 125.

BRACHYPTERINAE Zwick, 1973, *Das Tierreich*, **94**: 308 (an incorrect original spelling of BRACHYPTERAINAE).

Brachypterus Kugelann, 1794, *Neuestes Magazin für Liebhaber der Entomologie*, **1**(5): 560.

Kateretes Herbst, 1793, *Natursystem aller bekannten in- und ausländischen Insecten . . .*, p. 11.

KATERETIDAE Erichson in Agassiz, [1846], *Nomenclator zoologicus*, fasc. 11, p. 30.

pedicularius, *Dermestes*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Systema Naturae*, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 357.

trifasciata, *Nemoura*, Pictet, 1832, *Annales des Sciences Naturelles*, **26**: 379.

urticae, *Dermestes*, Fabricius, 1792, *Entomologia Systematica*, vol. 1, part 1, p. 235.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Nemoura trifasciata* Pictet, 1832 as the type species of *Brachyptera* Newport, 1848:

Frison, T.H. 1929. *Bulletin of the Illinois State Natural History Survey*, **18**: 373.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Dermestes pedicularius* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species of *Kateretes* Herbst, 1793:

Hope, F.W. 1840. *The coleopterist's manual*, part 3, p. 155.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Dermestes urticae* Fabricius, 1792 as the type species of the nominal genus *Brachypterus* Kugelann, 1794:

Thomson, C.G. 1859. *Skandinaviens Coleoptera synoptiskt bearbetade*, vol. 1, p. 67.